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RAINBOW

by ABE George & KAKIZAKI Masasumi

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Rainbow 141

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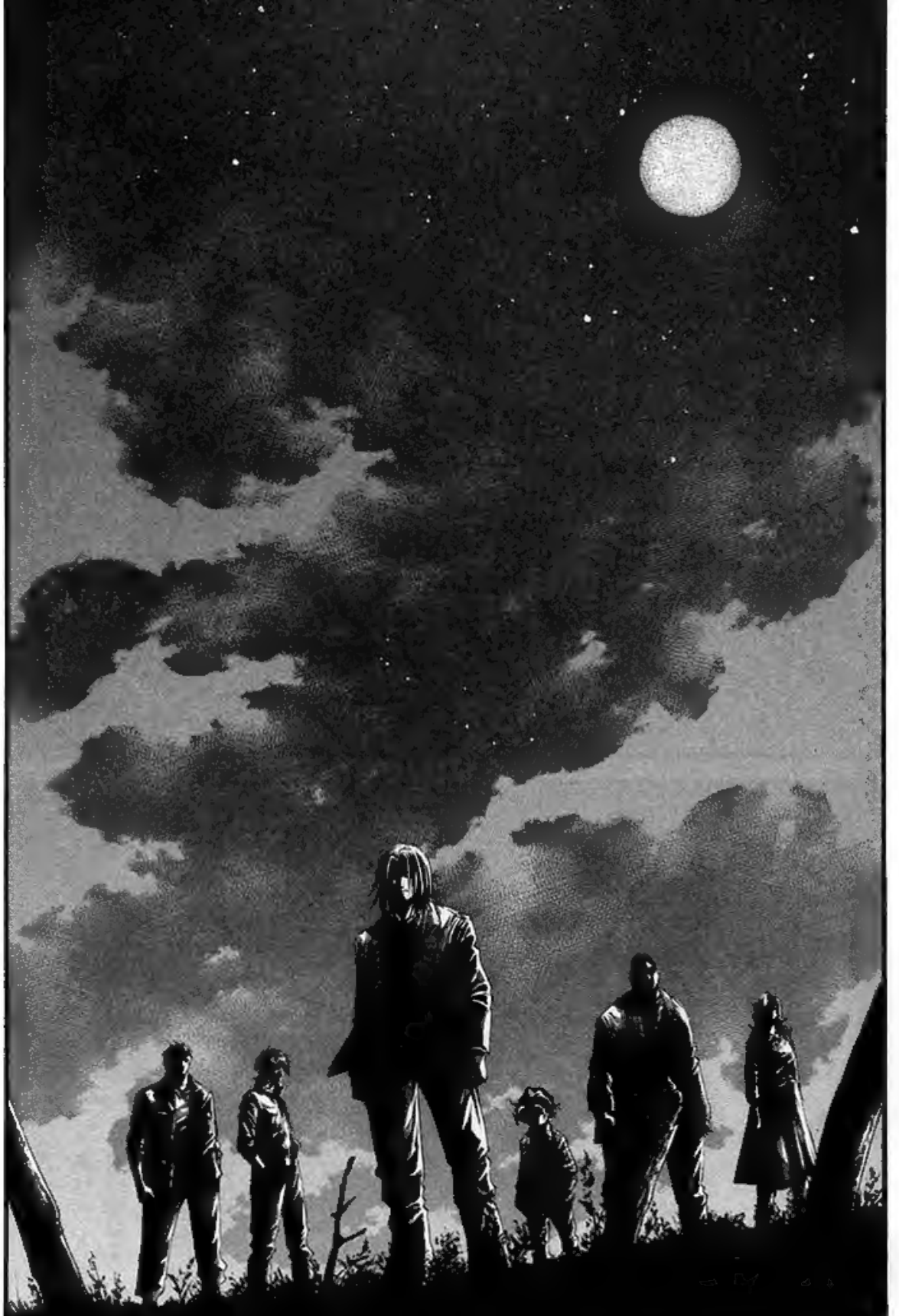


CRIME 141. Moonlight shadow

HEY JOE, WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO END IT?

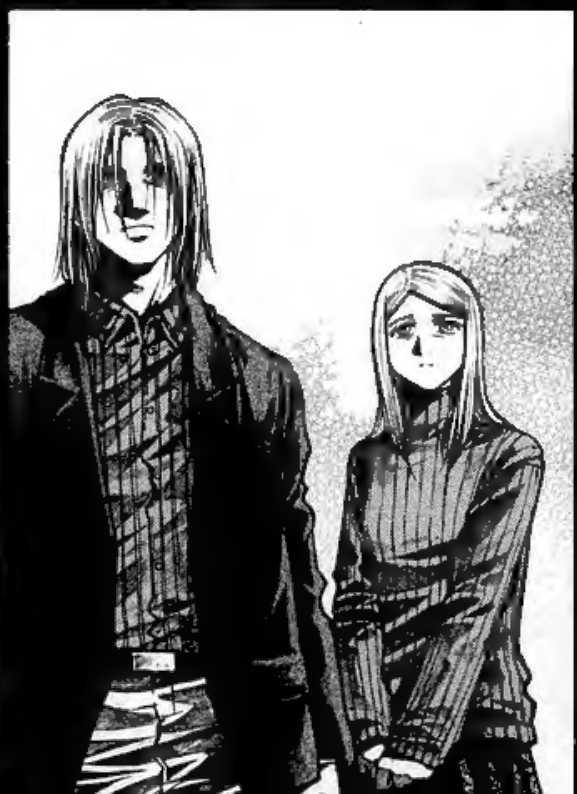
I GOT A CALL FROM MEGU, WHO WAS CRYING.
THIS MORNING,

BUT THEN SHE SAID TO ME,
SAID SHE DIDN'T WANT PEOPLE TO BE ATTACKED ANYMORE BECAUSE OF HER.
SHE WAS SHOCKED AT THE DESTRUCTION OF LILY-SAN'S STORE.
THAT'S WHY SHE WANTED TO FIND A WAY OUT BY HERSELF.
MEGUSA... SHE'S SHIN'S STRONGEST KID, RIGHT?

ONII-CHAN,
HELP ME!

WE WENT OVER TODAY.
TELL WHO WHAT?
SO AFTER TALKING, WE DECIDED...
...TO TELL THEM EVERYTHING.

Kawamako Police Station



I'LL TELL THEM EVERYTHING.
EVERYTHING HE'S DONE. I'LL END EVERYTHING.
ALL RIGHT.
Reception

PLEASE WAIT, DETECTIVE!
WEREN'T YOU LISTENING TO WHAT I SAID?
AND?
MEGU, MY SISTER... SHE BORE THIS SHAME, AND...
I KNOW. I HEARD YOU.
IS THAT ALL?

WHEN YOU WERE 12, YOU WERE ADOPTED FROM THE ORPHANAGE.
AND FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS, YOUR ADOPTIVE FATHER RAPED YOU. IS THAT RIGHT?
YES.
AND NOW YOU WANT TO CHARGE HIM.
THAT'S RIGHT.
SURATU
SURATU
SURATU
SO IF YOU WANTED TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU *COULD* CHARGE HIM.
WELL NOW. RAPE IS CERTAINLY A SERIOUS CRIME THAT REQUIRES THE VICTIM TO COME FORWARD.

THAT IS, IF YOU HAVE EVIDENCE.
WAIT A SECOND! WHAT "EVIDENCE?" MEGU JUST MADE HER STATEMENT!
GHURT
AND I'M SAYING IF SHE CAN'T PROVE IT, THE POLICE CAN'T DO ANYTHING!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
STF
WELL,
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE ACCUSING...
GULP
...A RICH LANDOWNER.

YOU COULD'VE COOKED THIS UP TO EXTORT HIM FOR SOME CASH.
YOU BASTARD, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
GRAB
ONII-CHAN, STOP!
NOW, I'M GONNA HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE. I'M A BUSY PERSON.
SORRY, BUT WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR FAIRY TALE.

Three years ago, when she was just 12, Megu was completely alone in the darkness. She dredged up those repulsive memories that she'd sealed away, deep in her heart, in order to confess to the police. But they didn't even believe her! All right. I understand.

If it will protect Megu's body from that savage, if it can save her heart from the abyss... I'll do anything.

Joe decided this in his heart.

DAMN IT! THE POLICE ARE USE-LESS!
THEY WEREN'T EVEN PRETENDING TO LISTEN!

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JOE? YOU SAID YOU WERE GONNA END IT ALL, RIGHT?
.....

LISTEN, I'M NOT LETTING YOU GO THROUGH THIS HELL ALONE.

ME-ME TOO!
THAT'S RIGHT. IF YOU'RE GOING, SO AM I.

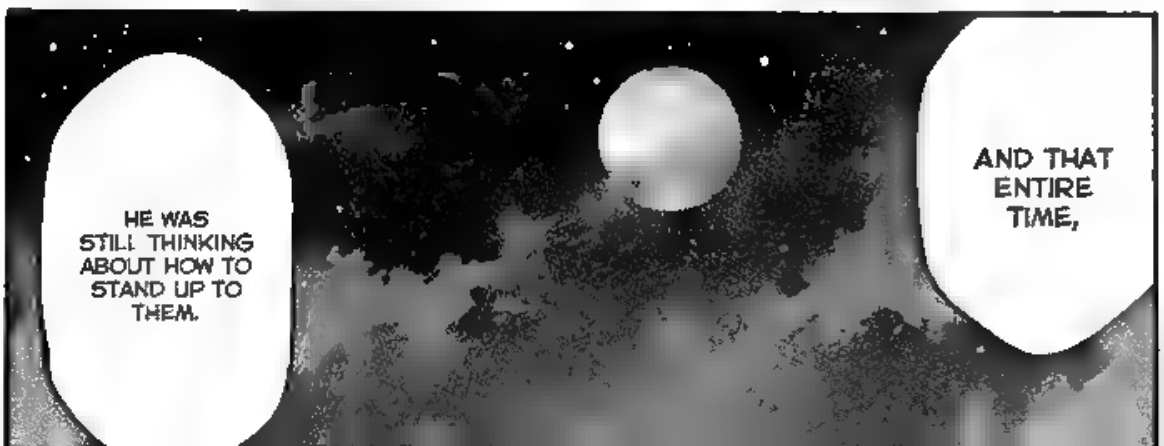
I ALSO...
THOUGHT THAT AT FIRST.
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS EVEN SAYING?
IT'LL BE LIKE GOING BACK TO THE OLD DAYS.

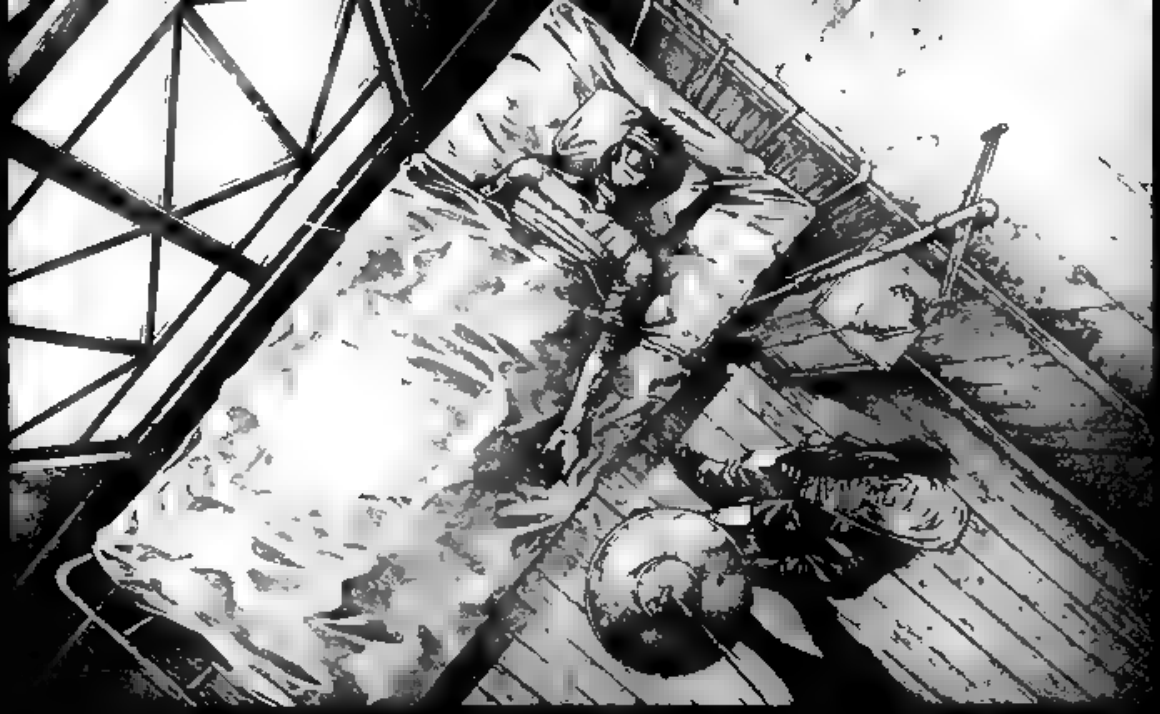
UNTIL I TALKED TO BAREMOTO.

BAREMOTO! SO HE'S ALL RIGHT?
YEAH.

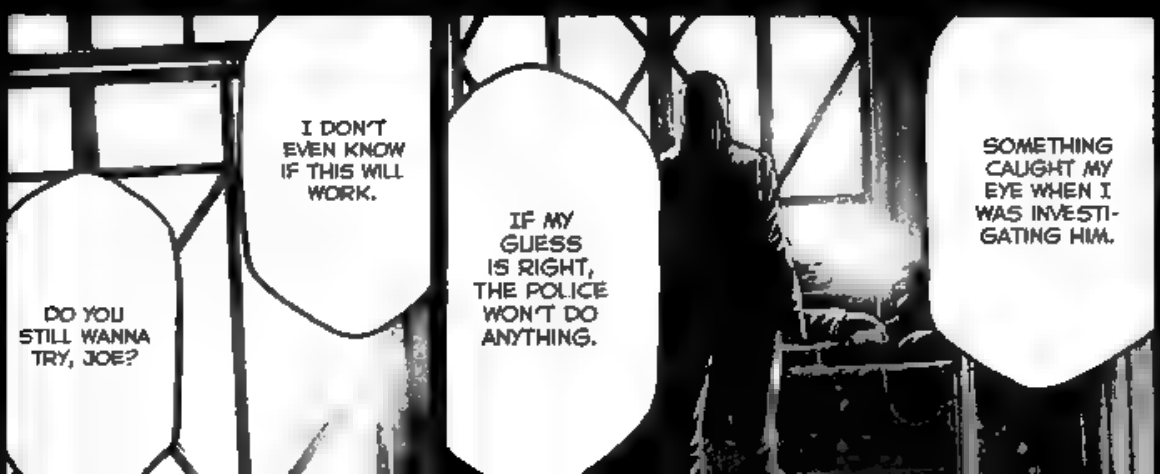
HUH? HE'S CONSCIOUS?
HE CAN TALK?!

HE PUT HIMSELF THROUGH SO MUCH FOR US.
BAREMOTO, THAT GUY...


HE WAS STILL THINKING ABOUT HOW TO STAND UP TO THEM.
AND THAT ENTIRE TIME,



I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING UNTIL NOW, BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT MEGU-CHAN TO HEAR THIS,
BUT IT'S GONE TOO FAR. THERE'S NO OTHER WAY, JOE.


SOMETHING CAUGHT MY EYE WHEN I WAS INVESTI-GATING HIM.
IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT, THE POLICE WON'T DO ANYTHING.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THIS WILL WORK.
DO YOU STILL WANNA TRY, JOE?

ARE YOU SERIOUS, BAREMOTO?

GAMBLING ON EVEN THE TINIEST SLIVER OF HOPE WAS ANCHAN'S STYLE.
HAH! YOU'RE RIGHT.

YEAH.
TELL ME ABOUT IT, BAREMOTO.

YEAH, WE'LL HELP.
OKAY! JOE, TELL US WHAT BAREMOTO FOUND OUT.

DON'T BE A FOOL!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?

NO, LET ME DO THIS ALONE.

IT'S NOT ABOUT PRIDE.
NO! I'M NOT BEING STUBBORN.

THIS IS SOMETHING I—
NO, SOMETHING MEGU AND I HAVE TO DO.

THAT'S...
HOW I FEEL.

I UNDER-STAND!
GO CRAZY AND DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY,
BUT REMEMBER, WE'LL BE HERE FOR YOU ANY-TIME.
THANK YOU.

I'LL BE THE ONE TO KICK HIM INTO HELL!

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